

MAY 7, 2010

EXHIBIT 20

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STATE OF MONTANA

BRIAN SCHWEITZER, GOVERNOR

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DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK

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LIVESTOCK LOSS REDUCTION & MITIGATION

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May 7, 2010

Environmental Quality Council

RE: Livestock Loss Reduction & Mitigation Board request

Chairman Vincent and members of the committee, my name is George Edwards and I am here on behalf of the Livestock Loss Reduction and Mitigation Board. The purpose of the board is to administer the programs called for in the Montana gray wolf management plan. During EQC's January meeting, a member of your committee suggested a possibility of placing some of the wolf tag revenues into the Livestock Loss Reduction & Mitigation Program. At the March EQC meeting we found that other states wildlife agencies currently share a portion of license revenues with other entities working on common issues. LLRMB's request is to ask this committee to draft a committee bill to place at least half of wolf tag/license fees collected by Fish, Wildlife and Parks into the Livestock Loss Reduction & Mitigation Program. Federal legislation has passed to provide a 50% cost share with states for wolf caused losses and loss prevention efforts. In order to receive a 50% federal cost share, we need a revenue source for the states portion of the cost share.

Our board is ready to implement LLRMB's portion of wolf management programs with your help in establishing a funding source.

Thank you,

Montana Livestock Loss Reduction & Mitigation Board